

Governments, and as a Budget Officer for the City of Sherman.

In 1996, Dan began his impressive 25-year career with the City of Richardson serving as the Deputy City Manager and Chief Operating Officer from 1996 until he was appointed City Manager in 2012. His active role in economic development initiatives would be instrumental in fostering the prosperity of communities throughout Collin County.

As a testament to the admiration Johnson has garnered in the community, his past leadership roles include serving as the President of several organizations including the Urban Management Assistants of North Texas, and the Texas City Management Association. Other notable positions include his current service on the Methodist Richardson Medical Center Advisory Board, the University of Texas at Dallas Development Board, the Advisory Council for the UT Dallas School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences, and as the Treasurer and Board Executive Committee Member of the North Texas Commission.

Now as Dan Johnson prepares to begin a new season of life following his illustrious career, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing him for his dedication and many contributions to the betterment of the North Texas region.

#### REMEMBERING GEORGIANA BRUNET

#### HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 15, 2022*

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Mrs. Georgiana Smith Brunet, who found her heavenly wings on February 9, 2022 at the age of 97 years old. She was known to many as the Matriarch of Algiers, Louisiana, and was recently honored as the oldest serving community activist in my hometown. Affectionately called "Bunny," she dedicated her entire life to her family, faith, and community.

Mrs. Brunet attended Illinois State University and the Booker T. Washington Nursing Program of New Orleans. She was married to her late husband Mr. Bernard Brunet, Jr. for 37 years and together they had five children, her pride and joy.

A devout Catholic, Mrs. Brunet was an active parishioner of All Saints Church for over 71 years where she served on the Social Outreach Committee as well as the All Saints Sodality. She was a member of the All Saints Rosary Group/Legion of Mary for over 40 years. In 2012 her lifelong commitment earned her the prestigious Order of St. Louis IX Medallion, an award which honors laypersons who have contributed their time and talents to the church. The award was presented by Archbishop Aymond, the Archdiocese of New Orleans at St. Louis Cathedral.

Mrs. Brunet became an active community advocate for the Algiers area, while working as a Pediatric Nurse within the community over her 30 years. Mrs. Brunet's community activism was also celebrated when she was honored at the Algiers Courthouse in 2012 for her volunteer work.

Mrs. Brunet left a lasting mark on many of the organizations she actively participated in

including the Ladies Auxiliary of Peter Claver St. Rita's Court 36, 3rd and 4th degree, serving as Treasurer; the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) Auxiliary; Fan Advisory Committee of her beloved New Orleans Saints; Girl Scouts of America, and Krewe of NOMTOC ("New Orleans Most Talked of Club").

Mrs. Brunet was lovingly known as "Mother Jugs" for her work establishing the Krewe of NOMTOC and the Jugs Social Club, of which her husband was a co-founder and President. Nothing stood in her way of preparing and enjoying the Krewe of NOMTOC on parade Saturdays.

Mrs. Brunet kept busy following the activities of the New Orleans Council on Aging, attending events at the Arthur Monday Senior Center, craft-making, cooking, lobbying the State Legislature, and event planning.

Beyond her work, Georgiana had a vibrant social life. She was truly the life of the party and would carefully plan her costumes weeks in advance. She was a lively character with an undeniable fashion sense, always dressed to the nines on every occasion. Additionally, Georgiana was an avid traveler, visiting most states and several international destinations. She was a lover of politics, people, and fun, and a member of the Golden Girls Social Circle.

Algiers, Louisiana will never be the same without her. Her poise, talents and enduring love of everyone she touched will live in our hearts forever. We will all be better citizens because of the mark she left on each of us.

#### CELEBRATING U.S.-UZBEKISTAN PARTNERSHIP

#### HON. DON BACON

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 15, 2022*

Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the enduring friendship between the United States and Uzbekistan, and to recognize the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between our nations, including the 20th anniversary of the U.S.-Uzbekistan Strategic Partnership. Uzbekistan plays a fundamental role in the development of an independent, resilient, and democratic Central Asia. It is a burgeoning force for regional economic growth and a vital partner in strengthening regional stability and cooperation.

Since Uzbekistan's independence in 1991, with the fall of the Soviet Union, the United States and the international community have witnessed Uzbekistan emerge from what was once considered one of the world's most isolated and repressive countries into a nation of noteworthy transformational improvements.

Today, Uzbekistan strives to modernize and liberalize the economy; streamline its bureaucracy; ease political tension; address human rights concerns; and engage with the international community, attracting foreign investment. Our friendship continues to flourish. In 2019, the U.S. Department of Commerce led its first certified trade mission to Uzbekistan to discuss advancing trade opportunities between the two countries, and to open new markets for U.S. business interests.

In 2021, the U.S. Department of State and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic

of Uzbekistan launched a successful inaugural meeting of the U.S.-Uzbekistan Strategic Partnership Dialogue in Tashkent, inspiring a continued constructive exchange on critical issues.

I will continue to be a friend of Uzbekistan and support the great strides Uzbekistan has made to democratize. I look forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship between our two nations.

#### COMMEMORATING THE LYLES CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL CENTEN- NIAL

#### HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 15, 2022*

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the completion of the Lyles Consolidated School located in Gibson County, Indiana. This school served as a cornerstone of Lyles Station, a town that began as an African American farming settlement, until its closure in 1955 and again today as a museum where the history of the site and town are preserved.

Throughout its history, the Lyles Consolidated School produced exemplary graduates including; Alonzo Fields, the Chief Butler for Presidents at the White House for 21 years, Burniss Priestly, a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, Aaron Fisher, the most decorated African American soldier from Indiana to serve in World War I, and Matthias Nolcox, the first principal of Indianapolis' Crispus Attucks High School.

It wasn't until 1999 when this outstanding piece of our history was recognized and protected by being added to the National Register of Historic Places, an important step in preserving the building after it had fallen to disrepair after closure. Today, the Lyles Station Historic School and Museum continues the tradition of educating visitors on the contributions, struggles, and achievements of the African American Hoosiers who studied and lived here. The school is filled with period-correct seating, books, and other materials that help bring the site to life for those that visit.

I am grateful to the Hoosiers that painstakingly work to preserve this part of our history, and encourage my colleagues and all of their constituents to come visit southern Indiana so that they can stop by the Lyles Station Historic School and Museum to recognize their centennial and contributions to the United States.

#### RECOGNIZING DR. BARBARA SHANNON-BANNISTER

#### HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 15, 2022*

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Barbara Shannon-Bannister for receiving the Spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award from Aurora Community of Faith, and for her lifelong service to our community.

The Spirit of MLK Award is presented to an individual who emulates the values, ideas, dreams, and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King,

Jr. This year, Aurora Community of Faith presented the Spirit of MLK Award to Dr. Shannon-Bannister for her selfless service as an ally and advocate for our community. Devoted to a cause greater than herself, Dr. Shannon-Bannister works tirelessly to take risks and address critical issues and concerns in the lives of everyday people—just as Dr. King did.

Dr. Shannon-Bannister dedicated her life to serving the community. From founding several nonprofit organizations that aid the underserved to bringing the Aurora Branch of the NAACP to Colorado, she has long been engaged in civil rights advocacy and issues impacting marginalized communities. Upon her retirement from a 36-year career with the City of Aurora, Dr. Shannon-Bannister has focused her efforts on Grand Design Inc.—a nonprofit organization she founded in 1984 to preserve cultural and musical traditions of the Black community in Aurora. It is still one of the only Black performing arts companies in the city.

Dr. Shannon-Bannister is a fervent advocate and champion for the African American community, and her commitment—and voice—has never wavered from aiding those in need. Her extraordinary career and service to our community epitomize what it means to live a life for others. In honoring the legacy of Dr. King, I can think of no one more deserving of the Spirit of MLK Award. I congratulate and thank her for her incredible dedication to our community.

#### HONORING THE CITY OF LONG BEACH AS THE COMMUNITY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS SINCE ITS FOUNDING

#### HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 15, 2022*

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Long Beach, as the community celebrates 100 years since its founding in 1922.

On this historic occasion, I find it important to briefly revisit the history of Long Beach. Originally purchased as a parcel of land by Henry Harrison Tinker in 1880, the land was transformed into a small town known as Tinkerville. Only a few decades later in 1922, the coastal town of Tinkerville would be reestablished under a new name—Long Beach.

Long Beach has certainly transformed over the years. But while physical structures may have come and gone, the spirit and resiliency of the folks who call it home have not.

As Southwest Washington's Member of Congress, it's an honor and privilege to serve and represent this special community. I will continue working to make sure Long Beach remains a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

Once again, I want to honor the City of Long Beach, as it celebrates 100 years since its founding. May the city and its people flourish for 100 more.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF HAVEN J. BARLOW

#### HON. BLAKE D. MOORE

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 15, 2022*

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Haven J. Barlow. Utah lost a community giant who lived to be 100 years old. It's hard to believe, but Haven's life was nearly cut short when at just nine months old a train struck the Model T Ford he was riding in, killing his mother and 3 other passengers. Fortunately he survived and lived a full life in service of others. Haven served our country as a Navy Ensign in World War II and was the longest serving state legislator in Utah history, first elected in 1953 and served until 1995.

Haven's service to Utah and Davis County is immeasurable where he spent much of his time focused on matters pertaining to education. He led the fight to establish and fund the first state vocational institution in Davis County—now Davis Technical College, the establishment of Weber State/Davis Campus, and Utah's creation of the weighted pupil index (WPU) ensuring a child can get the same level of education regardless of where they lived. In addition, Haven helped establish the Hill Aerospace Museum, the Freeport Center, the restoration of Utah's Governors Mansion and was behind the original Utah Symphony Endowment fund.

Haven was married to Bonnie Rae Ellison for 58 years before her passing and raised 6 children.

#### CELEBRATING THE WORK OF WALTER SMITH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DC APPLESEED

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 15, 2022*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the critically important and remarkable work of Walter Smith, who, after over 20 years, is stepping down as the executive director of the DC Appleseed Center for Law and Justice. At DC Appleseed, Walter has made significant contributions to the District of Columbia on issues ranging from democracy to public health to the environment to education.

I have worked closely with Walter in the fight for statehood, congressional voting representation and home rule for D.C. Walter has been one of the intellectual architects of these efforts, leading litigation, testifying before Congress and authoring legal opinions.

Walter has led DC Appleseed's important work on HIV/AIDS, early childhood programs, special education, drinking water, the Anacostia River and end-of-life care. Last year, Walter's work led to a settlement with a health insurer that resulted in the creation of a \$95 million fund to address public health needs in D.C.

Walter has litigated numerous cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and the D.C. Court of Appeals. Prior to joining DC Appleseed,

Walter served as Special Deputy Corporation Counsel at the D.C. Office of the Corporation Counsel, which is now D.C.'s Office of the Attorney General, where he oversaw major litigation. Prior to his D.C. service, Walter practiced appellate litigation at Hogan Lovells for 16 years, where he served as a partner and was the full-time director of the firm's pro bono practice. Walter also served as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy JAG Corps.

Walter is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma and Harvard Law School. After law school, Walter clerked for a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Walter has been recognized for his outstanding legal work. For example, Walter received the President's Award from the Washington Council of Lawyers in 2011, was named one of the "90 Greatest Washington Lawyers of the last 30 years" in 2007 by the Legal Times and received the D.C. Bar's highest award for public service, the Brennan Award, in 2014. He has also enjoyed an active role in local musical theater, starring in several major productions.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the important contributions of Walter Smith, and to congratulate him as he steps down as the executive director of the DC Appleseed Center for Law and Justice.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF JONATHAN "JON" FLAGLER

#### HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 15, 2022*

Mr. LIEU. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Mr. Jonathan "Jon" Flagler, a beloved community member and firefighter in the 33rd Congressional District who passed away in the line of duty at the age of 48 on January 6, 2022.

Born on October 9, 1974, Jon was born and raised in the neighborhood of San Pedro in the City of Los Angeles. He attended Crestwood Elementary School, Dodson Middle School, and graduated Class of 1992 from San Pedro High School. Immediately after high school, Jon threw himself into working towards his passion, dedicating his time to helping others by becoming a firefighter. After high school, he attended El Camino Community College to take fire science classes and then later graduated from Rio Hondo's Fire Academy. Jon continued his education and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Fire Administration from California State University, Los Angeles in 2001.

Jon began his 21-year career as an industrial firefighter with Northrop Grumman Aerospace in 2002 before being hired by the City of Vernon Fire Department later that same year. He spent the majority of his career working at Vernon Fire Station One and Three. In 2020, Jon relocated to the Los Angeles County Fire Department after the agency took over firefighting services for the City of Vernon. As a part of the Los Angeles County Fire Department, he worked at Fire Station 22 before moving to Fire Station 83, located in Rancho Palos Verdes, just a few blocks from his childhood home. Tragically, Jon lost his life in the line of duty—bravely fighting a fire, selflessly protecting the community he served.